United Nations TD/B/C.II/23

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.: General
13 February 2014

Original: English

Trade and Development Board
Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission
Sixth session
Geneva, 28 April – 2 May 2014
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Reports of expert meetings:
   (a) Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development on its second session, 19–21 March 2014
   (b) Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting on its thirtieth session, 6–8 November 2013
4. Entrepreneurship and productive capacity-building: Creating jobs through enterprise development
5. Technology and innovation for inclusive development
6. Promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars
7. Other business
8. Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board

GE.14-50144
1450144

Please recycle

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. The Accra Accord, adopted at UNCTAD XII, established the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission. Paragraph 202 states that:

> ...The Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission will have the mandate of the previous Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues, and will also assume responsibility for enterprise and ICT [information and communications technology] issues from the previous Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development.

2. Paragraph 203 of the Accra Accord stipulates:

> The outcomes of commission sessions will be agreed conclusions from the policy dialogue and recommendations to the secretariat achieved within the scheduled time of the session... These conclusions and recommendations should be focused, brief and directly related to the agenda of the session and should provide inputs to the research and analysis pillar and the technical cooperation pillar...

3. Paragraph 206 of the Accra Accord also provides that:

> The commission meetings will have as their inputs: substantive documentation prepared by the secretariat, providing secretariat views and recommendations based on secretariat research and analysis; reports of expert meetings; inputs from the Global Network of Development Think Tanks, civil society and the private sector; and secretariat activity reports.

Item 1
Election of officers

4. In accordance with rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Main Committees of the Trade and Development Board, the Commission is to elect a Chair, five Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of its members, taking into account the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution. In accordance with rule 19 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the Commission shall consist of seven members: four members from lists A and C combined, two members from list B and one member from list D, referred to in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) as amended.

5. Accordingly, following the cycle of rotation established after UNCTAD IX, the Bureau for this sixth session of the Commission will be as follows: the Chair from list C; the Rapporteur from list D; three Vice-Chairs from lists A and C combined; and two Vice-Chairs from list B.

Item 2
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

6. The provisional agenda for the sixth session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission was approved in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Main Committees of the Trade and Development Board (rule 8) during the fifth session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission (TD/B/C.II/22). The substantive topics of the agenda were approved, in accordance with paragraph 204 of the Accra Accord, by the Trade and Development Board at its sixtieth session (TD/B/60/11).

7. With regard to the organization of the work, the Commission session will have a duration of five days, and this time period will include a break of one day for informal consultations. The first three days will focus on the substantive items of the agenda, comprising two topics and consideration of the reports of expert meetings and workplans.

Following a break of one day, on the last day of the session, the Commission will address the institutional issues on the agenda and adopt any agreed outcome.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/23	Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3
Reports of expert meetings

8. The Commission will have before it and will consider (a) the Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development on its second session, 19–21 March 2014; and (b) the Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting on its thirtieth session, 6–8 November 2013.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/MEM.4/6	Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-Building and Sustainable Development on its Second session
TD/B/C.II/ISAR/68	Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting on its thirtieth session

Item 4
Entrepreneurship and productive capacity-building: Creating jobs through enterprise development

9. Entrepreneurship is key to employment generation and inclusive growth. This session will focus on a specific aspect of entrepreneurship development: the creation of jobs for young people. In many developing economies with young populations, the number of formal jobs on offer is often insufficient to employ all youth entering the working population and to offer them prospects of a decent wage enabling them to support a family. As a result, many are forced into the informal sector or into "necessity entrepreneurship". The lack of formal jobs for young people thus often perpetuates the informality of the economy. Enabling young people to start their own business activity and helping them to become successful takes them off the job market, possibly also generating jobs for others, and it is a promising avenue for promoting formalization. However, young people face a number of hurdles to setting up a formal business that are specific to their age group and conditions, and entrepreneurship policies need to incorporate elements that are targeted specifically to them. In addition, lack of experience and skills means that a very high percentage of youth enterprises fail during the first few months of operation. Entrepreneurship policy challenges and measures specific to youth will be the topic for discussion in this session.

10. Responding to the mandates spelled out by sub-theme IV, paragraphs 65(g), (h) and (m) of the Doha Mandate, the Commission will discuss these policy challenges and measures, building on the lessons learned from the Empretec programme and through the lenses of the recently developed Entrepreneurship Policy Framework with a view to enhancing the productive capacity of developing countries and strengthening the resilience of their enterprises to the global crisis and tomorrow's challenges.

11. The UNCTAD secretariat has prepared an issues note to guide the deliberations which, along with the UNCTAD *Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and Implementation Guidance*, will serve as background documentation.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/24	Entrepreneurship and productive capacity-building: creating jobs through enterprise development
UNCTAD/DIAE/ED/2012/1	*Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and Implementation Guidance*

12. Strengthening entrepreneurship development for jobs creation in developing countries and transition economies is a primary consideration for UNCTAD's Investment Policy Reviews. Under this item, and in line with the established practice of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission, the secretariat will consider the reviews of investment policies of Bangladesh, Mongolia and the Republic of Moldova, which will provide an opportunity to exchange best practices on entrepreneurship development and productive capacity-building.

Documentation

UNCTAD/DIAE/PCB/2013/4	Investment Policy Review: Bangladesh
UNCTAD/DIAE/PCB/2013/3	Investment Policy Review: Mongolia
UNCTAD/DIAE/PCB/2013/5	Investment Policy Review: Republic of Moldova

Item 5
Technology and innovation for inclusive development

13. Under this agenda item, the Commission will examine the important role that science, technology and innovation policies could have in building more inclusive economies and societies. Promoting inclusive development – through the development of innovation designed specifically for less advantaged social groups – is beginning to emerge as an objective of science, technology and innovation policies, in addition to their traditional goals such as enhancing growth and productivity. Since social development challenges, including poverty, are largely concentrated in developing regions, this topic is of special relevance for these countries. The Commission will examine mechanisms and tools available for developing countries to address social challenges through the formulation of their science, technology and innovation policy frameworks, especially in the context of a post-2015 development agenda. Particular attention will be paid to governance issues in the innovation system that need to be acknowledged in order to align the social and economic goals of science, technology and innovation policy. Potential benefits and challenges of inclusive innovation will also be addressed.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/25	Technology and innovation for inclusive development

Item 6
Promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars

14. Under this item, the secretariat will report on progress made in promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars of UNCTAD's work in the areas covered by this Commission. The Director of the Division on Investment and Enterprise and the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics will give a presentation on the progress made since the last session of the Commission.

Documentation

UNCTAD/DIAE/2014/2	*Division on Investment and Enterprise: Results and Impact Report 2014*
UNCTAD/DTL/2014/1	*Division on Technology and Logistics: Activity Report*

Item 7
Other business

15. Under this agenda item, the Commission may also wish to consider and recommend to the Trade and Development Board, for approval, the substantive topic(s) for the seventh session of the Commission.

Item 8
Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board

16. The report of the sixth session of the Commission will be submitted to the Trade and Development Board.